

POUCH 817

SECRET

19 March 1946

1275-2277  
KX11320

TO: SAINT, WASHINGTON  
FROM: SAINT, LONDON  
SUBJECT: ONODERA

CONTROL

DESENSITIZED  
DSI 70-17

1. Enclosed is a brief for ONODERA, supplied by the BB-landers, about which we cabled you today. We hope to hear soon the results of the reinterrogation of WENZLAU on ONODERA.

2. In accordance with your cable #1742, we have suggested to the BB-landers that the War Office communicate directly with US military authorities in the Far East, asking that their Tokyo SCI unit be permitted to participate in interrogations not only of ONODERA but of the Plus Ultra group in general; and we have suggested that this organization not be mentioned in their communications.

3. Re cable #1742, Para 5: The BB-landers already have an SCI team in Tokyo (which is presumably, though not certainly, known under the designation "SCI"). This will complicate the timing referred to in your Para 5, last sentence, since their people are already on the spot (literally, not figuratively). We hope that you can straighten this out.

4. The BB-landers have asked us, because of the references in the brief to GARNIER, that the brief be treated as confidentially as possible, instructions that apply both to the interrogators and to the field stations receiving copies herewith. The BB-landers are sending a copy themselves to their SCI unit in Tokyo. In view of the generally delicate nature of the case, we request recipients of this pouch to treat it as CONTROL, and to limit discussion of it to this branch, until Washington authorizes otherwise.

Distribution:

Washington (1 enclosure)  
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CLASSIFICATION DERIVED FROM CHANGED IN DATE 2/2/50  
BY AUTHORITY OF [signature]  
1950  
For annex, see pink sheet with rough notes  
Onodera, [signature]  
1/10/46 file [signature]

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RECORDED

OSO Registry  
MAR 30 1946  
9

NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT

EXEMPTIONS Section 3(b)  
(2)(A) Privacy ☐  
(2)(B) Methods/Sources ☒  
(2)(G) Foreign Relations ☐

Declassified and Approved for Release  
by the Central Intelligence Agency  
Date: 2005

TOPSEC.

Interrogation of General Onodera

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General background

ONODERA, Makoto, was born at Iwata on Sept. 19th, 1897. He comes from a Japanese family of high standing and received a first class education, including Military training.

In 1923 he graduated from the Imperial War College, where he had learned to speak Russian.

1924-27 held various military appointments in Japan.

1928-30 served as an Intelligence officer with the rank of Captain on the Japanese General Staff in Manchuria.

1930-36 was lecturer on the staff of the Japanese Military Academy and instructor in tactics.

From 1937-42 he held various appointments in Europe, where he was Japanese Military Attache to the Baltic States. He arrived in Stockholm early in 1942 and retained the post of Military Attache there until his repatriation in January, 1946.

He is married to a Japanese, and it is believed that his son was at school in Germany.

Onodera was in charge of Military Intelligence in Sweden but gradually developed his organisation to cover Air, Technical and Economic Intelligence. After the collapse of Finland in October 1944, Onodera also assumed responsibility for such Intelligence networks as remained in Finland. His knowledge and friendship for the Baltic peoples generally certainly helped the building up of his organisation in Stockholm, many of his best sources are known to have been Estonians and Finns. He is also reputed to have had a great admiration for the Poles.

General Onodera made several journeys to Berlin while stationed in Stockholm, partially to consult with his Japanese opposite number there and also to discuss general Intelligence questions with the Abwehr. His liaison with German Intelligence in Sweden varied considerably according to the personalities involved. He did not like Dr. WAGNER, Leiter of K.O. Schweden (later K.D.M.), but maintained useful and friendly contact with the I Luft Officers Karl Heinz KRAEMER and Heinrich WENZLAU. His most fruitful liaison, however, was certainly with the Finns and Hungarians.

Questions to be put to Onodera and our comments thereon:-

Question No. 1: What were your principal sources of information in Sweden?

Comment:

Briefly speaking, we believe these to be Rudolf MAASING, one time member of the Estonian Military Intelligence; Heikki AULIO, who formerly worked in the Finnish General Staff; Major Vladimir VOSKOVY, Assistant to the Hungarian Military Attache; and Otto KUERNUS, a very professional espionage agent.

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Question No. 2: What information did you receive from Rudolf MAASING, and what were his sources?

Question No. 3: What do you know about the French Military Attache's Assistant, Pierre Albert GARNIER? Did you check the information he gave to MAASING and did you think it authentic or not? Was GARNIER a conscious agent of yours and was he ever paid, either in money or favours?

Comment: We know from evidence provided by the German, Karl Heinz KRAEMER, that he received intelligence from GARNIER via Onodera and MAASING. We are anxious to find out whether GARNIER was a conscious Japanese agent, and if so, why. Had he for example been blackmailed either by MAASING or Onodera at some earlier date?

Question No. 4: Did MAASING ever forward to you any information obtained from the Swedish General Staff, if so, what? Was there, for example, any information about French Order of Battle, etc.

Question No. 5: What were your relations with Colonel KRNEFF of Swedish General Staff, formerly Swedish Military Attache in Helsinki? You obtained a certain amount of intelligence from him - what did this consist of and what did you give in return?

Question No. 6: What intelligence did you extract from Colonel Karl PETERSEN, who was a member of the Intelligence Section of the Swedish General Staff? We were informed by the Swedish Authorities that a certain amount of intelligence was passed to you by PETERSEN, but they themselves suspected that PETERSEN may have passed you far more important information than that which they authorized. Please give details as far as you remember of the intelligence passed by PETERSEN. Did this for example contain information about the D-Day Raid, ARNHEM landings, D-Day, general information on British and American Air Forces in England and France?

Comment: We have been completely unsuccessful in tracing the source of Karl Heinz KRAEMER's Hector and Josephine reports, which contained the above mentioned information. There is a remote possibility that he may have obtained this information through Onodera from PETERSEN and the Swedish General Staff, who in turn would have obtained it as Military Intelligence from their Attaches abroad.

Question No. 7: What was the extent of Otto KUMENUS's services to you?

Question No. 8: Please explain fully what matters you discussed with Hauptmann von GARDEN and Hauptmann SCHULTZ and Oberst ROHDE in Copenhagen at the beginning of November, 1944. Were the Germans interested in the Russian intelligence?

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Comment: We believe the object of this conference was to exchange Intelligence that Onodera obtained about Russian against Intelligence that the Germans had obtained about England and the U.S.A.

Question No. 9: Explain fully your relations with the Finnish Assistant Naval Attache Albert WILLMAN and how this relationship began. What results did this contact yield?

Question No. 10: What were your relations with the Swiss Military Attache Arnold KAECH.

Question No. 11: Have you anything to say about Intelligence exchanged with Switzerland generally? What for example do you know about the German MEISSNER, who according to KRAEMER on one occasion passed money through you to him.

Question No. 12: During your visit to Norway you were approached by certain German officials, notably Hauptmann von GALEN, with a view to working in conjunction with Frontaufklärungskommando 212. You were allotted the cover name of Oberjäger. How much work did you do for this group and what were the results?

Question No. 13: Who was the agent by the name of LOHMANN who visited you in your office early in January 1945 to discuss W/T communications with Spain?

Question No. 14: What do you know of the activities of Dr. KENOMOTO (Monotaro)? Were his intelligence assignments given by you or some other Japanese Authority, or were they given by R.S.H.A. Berlin? He had plans for establishing W/T communications between Sweden and KAMARAS, Hungarian in Barcelona, also possibly certain other individuals in Germany and Spain, notably the Hungarian FERBER. Did you ever know Captain Anton GRUNDBOCK, a Hungarian naturalised Swedish, employed by the Swedish Trading Co. GRUNDBOCK died at the end of 1943. Give all possible details, if known.

Question No. 15: What were your relations with GADELITUS & Co. and how far did they help in financing your Intelligence activities?

Question No. 17: What were the functions of URA Saburo, firstly in Helsinki and latterly in Stockholm under your direction?

Question No. 18: How much intelligence work did Japanese newspaper correspondents in Stockholm do and under whose directions did they come, yours or the Minister's?

Question No. 19: When was Heide WURIO recruited by you? What were his conditions of service? Did you contact him directly, or did you work through a cut-out, if so who?

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Question No. 20: What connection did you have with the Stockholm firm of NYMAN & SHULTZ?

Question No. 21: What means of communications did you use between yourself or your organisation and agents outside Sweden, W/T, secret writing, photographs?

Question No. 22: Give as full an account as possible of your financial resources for intelligence purposes and distribution of expenses made.

The above questions deal only with ONODERA's organisation in Sweden. We will leave the question of general queries to be covered by you. However, the following will give you some idea of the type of information about the Japanese intelligence organisation in Europe that we are interested in.

Question No. 23: Was there a central body or individual head (a) in Europe; (b) in Japan, to receive and collate intelligence collected by the various naval, military, diplomatic and consular posts?

Question No. 24: To what extent was there cooperation between naval, military, diplomatic and consular intelligence systems in Europe? Were Service Attaches independent of the heads of diplomatic missions in collecting and/or transmitting intelligence to Japan?

Question No. 25: Did TOKUMU KIKAN operate in Europe? Is so, in what way?

Question No. 26: Was there any intelligence organisation in Europe other than those of the Service Attaches, diplomatic missions, and consulates?

Question No. 27: Did Service Attaches ever report direct to the Emperor?

Question No. 28: Did Service Attaches report to Imperial H.Q. and to their respective General Staffs as separate entities, or did their reports automatically cover both?

Question No. 29: Were there any officers of the Security Branch of the Japanese Home Office operative in Europe?

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Index to Onodera Inter. for answers 19 Mar 46  
to British ~~action~~  
Question 1 - pp 41, 42, 61, 4, 87, 102, 103  
p. 97 (answered)

All full-time  
in X-2 TS - 2277  
with this interrogation

Question 2 (answered pp 64, 65, 67)

3

Onodera ~~Inter.~~  
Inter. ~~Inter.~~  
Inter. ~~Inter.~~  
Inter. ~~Inter.~~

4 pp 64, 65, 67  
Inter. ~~Inter.~~  
Inter. ~~Inter.~~

5 pp 64, 65, 67  
Inter. ~~Inter.~~  
Inter. ~~Inter.~~  
Inter. ~~Inter.~~

6 pp 64, 65, 67  
Inter. ~~Inter.~~  
Inter. ~~Inter.~~  
Inter. ~~Inter.~~

7 pp 64, 65, 67  
Inter. ~~Inter.~~  
Inter. ~~Inter.~~  
Inter. ~~Inter.~~

8 pp 64, 65, 67  
Inter. ~~Inter.~~  
Inter. ~~Inter.~~  
Inter. ~~Inter.~~

8. ~~page 93 -~~ ~~not answered~~ ~~not asked~~
9. ~~page 93 -~~ does not explain how relationship began.
- \* 10. ~~do not believe it was asked~~  
~~was info.~~ not asked
- \* 11. Switz + O. check "
12. page 93 claims nothing
13. page 123
14. Page 119 m - working for KATT pg 120  
not com. on page 120
- \* 15. not answered ?
16. implied neg on page 97
17. page 23
18. page 25
19. partially answered pg 23 pg 66

\*20. not answered.

21. page 64 - MA - Finland Kien dip. pouch  
" 50 - dip. pouch. - Jap. courier  
" 33 - no w/t used

22. page 35, 36, 37, 38, 39

23.

page 118 in part only ~~not~~ ~~all~~



24.1;

2. page 15

25, not answered (but according to  
Jap. desk. this org. did not operate  
in Europe.

26, pg 114

27

no. page 115

28.

page 114 (note)  
115

29.

not answered - (Jap Desk has no addit.  
info but doesn't believe there were